

weekend in respectful recognition of all the brave men and women who have worn the uniform, fought and died for our country. God Bless them all.

IN MEMORY OF MR. GEORGE TAGG

HON. JOHN S. TANNER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 23, 2002

Mr. TANNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember a very dear friend of mine, Mr. George Canale Tagg, who passed away May 14th of this year.

George's career is the perfect example of how hard work can pay off. Originally from Memphis, he started working at the Federal Express hub there, some 30 years ago. He stayed with FedEx over the years, eventually making his way here to Washington, where he became the company's managing director of Government Affairs. He retired and started his own firm, retaining FedEx as a client.

Although he called Memphis home, he most recently resided in Chevy Chase, Maryland, and was very active in the community here. He was a communicant of the Shrine of the Most Blessed Sacrament in Washington, a member of the Columbia Country Club and the University Club of Memphis.

George was one of my best friends. He was a kind, gentle man who genuinely cared deeply about all his fellow human beings. This unique devotion to goodwill shone through to all who knew and worked with him.

He made a huge and valuable contribution to our country in his all-too-short life. I know I will miss George Tagg tremendously, and I know his presence will be missed on Capitol Hill.

IN MEMORY OF REV. DR. M.
MORAN WESTON

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 23, 2002

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Rev. Dr. M. Moran Weston who passed away on May 18, 2002. Hardly a month went by when I did not hear his soothing baritone voice on the phone, teaching, encouraging, inspiring with his love and concern for our young people, for the elderly, for the poor and forgotten. I will miss him.

The glowing notices in the press will only add to the historical record of the great rector of St. Philips. His name is already enshrined at St. Augustine's College and Columbia University. But those of us who knew him, who live in the neighborhoods he enriched, will forever be reminded of his contributions by just walking the streets of Harlem and Morningside Heights.

He protested injustice, picketed and cajoled. But more than anything, he searched for solutions and achieved results. When the downtown banks refused our people credit, he founded and built Carver Federal Savings into a billion dollar banking institution. So no one would be left homeless, he built housing for seniors, for the mentally ill, and day care facilities

for children. He lobbied Congress to make decent, affordable housing a right under the Constitution of the United States.

A true man of God, the only credit he would humbly accept was having been blessed with a gift for encouraging others to action. But we know better, and we are indebted to Moran for his ideas, for his hard work and for his faith that with God nothing is impossible.

With his beloved wife Miriam, and children Gregory and Katherine, and his family I share the pain of loss. But I am deeply grateful that God saw fit to place Moran with us for his long and bountiful life. His memory will be with us always.

AUBURN HILLS AVONDALE YELLOWJACKETS

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 23, 2002

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Yellowjackets of Auburn Hills Avondale High School, on winning the 2001-2002 Michigan High School Athletic Association Class B State boys basketball championship. The Yellowjackets defeated the Grand Rapids South Christian Sailors 70-65 in the final game. It was certainly an exciting game that showcased some of the best talent the state of Michigan has to offer.

The Yellowjackets are a true testament of what hard work, determination, and a passionate desire to win can accomplish. Under the guidance of six-year Head Coach Tim Morton, the championship served as a wonderful finish to a remarkable year. This was the team's first visit to the state finals, and they finished their storybook season with a tremendous record of 25-3.

The Yellowjackets roster includes: seniors Jeremiah Handley, Brandon Larvadain, Mike Lewis, Kevin McConnell, Dionte Miller, Greg Riley, Wes Whiteside; juniors Brandon Borden, Steve Ellsworth, Kory Powell; sophomores Justin Bradford, Dave Holston; and freshmen Kerry Cole, Korey Cole. These young men, led by team captains Whiteside and Lewis, proved to be leaders in the classroom, the basketball court, and the community. They are all shining examples of the Avondale School District's strong commitment to success in all aspects of life.

Mr. Speaker, I salute the accomplishments of the Avondale Yellowjackets, and share the joy of their victory with Avondale students and alumni and especially the people of Auburn Hills. I ask my colleagues in the 107th Congress to join me in congratulating these fine gentlemen.

INTRODUCTION OF THE STRENGTHENING A FAST ENTRY AT THE BORDER ACT OF 2002 (SAFE BORDER)

HON. SUSAN DAVIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 23, 2002

Ms. DAVIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to talk about an opportunity to secure our borders and support commerce.

Securing our borders has long been a challenge. Doing so must balance appropriate enforcement without hindering legitimate crossborder travel or commerce, and still protect civil liberties. However, the events of September 11, coupled with daily traffic between the U.S.-Mexico border, have severely overextended our border inspection resources.

My district does not contain ports of entry, but its proximity to the border has affected it. I hear stories from my constituents about waiting in line for hours in the morning to commute to work. Long inspection lines are commonplace, with delays lasting several hours. This border congestion has negatively impacted San Diego area businesses.

In response, I have been working with various organizations in the district to develop a strategy to provide relief for San Diego. I have heard from many about SENTRI, a dedicated commuter lane demonstration project at the border that integrates technology with law enforcement.

SENTRI addresses the issues of congestion and long border delays by quickly moving low risk travelers through the inspection process. Frequent travelers participate in the SENTRI program by undergoing an extensive background check and interview to verify their low risk status. Once approved, the participants and their registered vehicles enter the country through a traffic lane exclusively reserved for them. Transponders in the car retrieve the vehicle and occupant information from the SENTRI database and display it on a screen within the inspection booth for fast identification. A border agent then compares the car's occupants to the pictures on the screen, allowing them to quickly continue on their way.

Demand for SENTRI passes has significantly increased since September 11. However, prospective participants encounter a tremendous application backlog. Applicants face up to a six-month waiting time to receive an appointment with the enrollment center and another three months for approval notification.

As a result, I am introducing the Strengthening a Fast Entry at the Border Act or the SAFE Border Act of 2002. The SAFE Border Act will increase security by pre-screening more people and by allowing agents to focus their enforcement efforts on those who have not passed extensive background checks.

Specifically, my legislation does three things: it gives the attorney general the authority to fully implement and make programs like SENTRI permanent. Dedicated commuter lanes and PortPASS programs have clearly shown their effectiveness in maintaining security and expediting travel. I believe the nation can only benefit from further expansion of these programs.

The second part allows INS and Customs personnel to devote more resources to prospective applicants by extending the permit renewal period to two years. By design, enrollees are a self-selected population. Focusing more attention to applicants will move more people out of the general commuter lanes and allow more background checks. Extending the renewal period will substantially reduce the waiting time for those seeking SENTRI approval and increase legitimate border traffic.

The last part of my legislation encourages increased staffing and resource allocation to SENTRI. Our borders are protected by a dedicated group of Customs and INS officers. Their constant vigilance constitutes our first